

Appl. No. 09/890,581
Reply to Office Action December 6, 2004

Amendment to the Abstract:

Please enter the Abstract of the Disclosure attached as an Appendix.

Abstract of the Disclosure

An actuating mechanism for actuating a surgical tool of a surgical instrument including an actuating device having an actuator surface. The actuating device is operable by applying a force to substantially any part of the actuator surface for placing the actuating device in an actuated position from a rest position for actuating a surgical tool. The actuator surface comprises a radially collapsible cage having a plurality of interdigitating actuating pads. Each pad is movable in a radial direction.